

MISS MAY YOHE

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"Your faithfully,  
(Signed) MAY A. YOHE"

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42, BATHBONE PLACE, LONDON, W.

# The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

No. 699.—ONE PENNY. [C.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

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## THIRD EDITION.

THE "PEOPLE" OFFICE.

Saturday Evening.

## CHINO-JAPANESE CONFLICT.

HOSHIMA, March 1.—An official despatch from Marshal Oyama, dated 27th ult., announces that the Chinese forces near Taiping-shan were defeated on the morning of Feb. 24. In the afternoon of that day 13,000 Chinese attacked Hsiching, but were repulsed after severe fighting and compelled to retreat in the direction of Yingkang. The Japanese casualties were 200 killed and 250 wounded. The Chinese lost 200 killed, the number of their wounded being unknown.

## ITALIANS IN AFRICA.

ROME, March 1.—Despatches from Massawa state that the leading Dervish chiefs, after a conference with the Mahdi, have returned to their various commands. The Mahdi, it is stated, wished for an immediate war against the Italians, but the numerous desertions from his armies compelled him to abandon the idea for the present. He had gone so far as to collect several thousand camels for transport, but these gradually disappeared until scarcely a score were left at his disposal. He has issued a new manifesto calling upon the Mohammedans in all the Red Sea littoral to join him in the holy work of driving off the infidel. *Central News.*

## EGYPTIAN QUESTION.

PARIS, March 1.—M. François Deloncle, writing in the "Matin," says that no comparison can be drawn between the situation in Upper Burma in 1885 and that in Egypt at the present time. He states that Egypt has never been so quiet as now, and that she awaits the future with calm and patience. M. Deloncle believes that the Egyptian question will soon be settled in London by Baron de

Coquelle, the French Ambassador.—*REUTER.*

## CUBAN RISING.

MADRID, March 1.—In both Houses of the Cortes last night several patriotic speeches were delivered by members, who declared that they would support the Government in preserving peace in Cuba. The Government is prepared to send 6,000 troops to reinforce the garrison of Cuba if necessary.—*REUTER.*

## KEY WEST (Florida), March 1.—A Spanish gunboat has arrived here. It is thought probable that its object is to keep watch and to prevent the departure of any filibustering expedition for Cuba. News has been received that the insurgents have defeated 2,000 troops under Gen. La Chambe. Reinforcements are said to be hurrying forward to Santiago and Matanzas.—*REUTER.*

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## SUICIDE OF A SOLICITOR.

Considerable excitement has lately prevailed at Newbury in consequence of the disappearance of Mr. Henry Burke Godwin, solicitor, of that town, who had held the position of town clerk to the borough and county justices and other public appointments for many years. He left home on Wednesday week to his principal client, stating that he should not return to Newbury, and sent back his watch and chain and rings. With other local capitalists Mr. Godwin had for some years past advanced large sums of money in undertakings that have turned out unsuccessful. All doubt has now been removed by a telegram from Leicester stating that Mr. Godwin has committed suicide by shooting himself in that

## SHILLING BUTTER.

At Lambeth, Henry Hale, a provision dealer, of Walworth-road, was summoned by Insp. Bush, on behalf of the Newington Vestry, for selling butter not of the nature, substance, and quality required by the purchaser. Mr. Hale, although the employ of the inspector, entered the shop and purchased half a pound of shilling butter. Upon being analysed, the sample was found to contain 50 per cent. of margarine.—For the defence, defendant's assistant explained that both butter and margarine were kept on the same slab, and said he must have served the boy with some margarine by mistake.—*do. and do.*

## SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES.

A Parliamentary paper issued on Friday gives details of the sums required to be voted for the year ending 31st March, 1895, in addition to the sums provided in the estimates presented in the current year. The total sum is £20,200, and includes a sum of £7,000, expenses incurred in the proceedings taken to obtain the extradition of Jabez Balfour and Cornelius Herz. An additional sum of £1,250 is required on behalf of the Agriculture Commission, and £9,500 for the Opium Commission. For relief of distress (Ireland) the additional sum required is £35,000, of which sum £29,500 is allocated to road and other works under the direction of the Chief Secretary.

## FOREIGN.

In the German Parliament a vote for the construction of war cruisers was passed by 145 to 77. The Agrarian party abstained from voting.

The Transatlantic Company's steamer La Gascogne, whose detention on her last outward voyage to New York caused such anxiety regarding the fate of those on board, has arrived at Havre.

Prince Richard Metternich, son of the famous statesman, was found on Friday dead in his bed, in Vienna. It is believed that death was caused by a stroke of apoplexy. He was aged 65, and was educated as a diplomatist. In 1859 he was entrusted with a special mission to Paris, and subsequently became Austrian Ambassador to France.

A terrible accident has occurred on the Inter-Ocean Railway of Mexico, where a well-laden passenger train ran off the rails whilst it was proceeding at a high rate of speed. The leading carriages were completely wrecked. No fewer than 42 persons were killed, whilst 30 were injured, some so seriously that recovery is regarded as impossible.

## EXCITING RESCUE BY A CAPE LINER.

The Norham Castle arrived at Durban (says a Reuter telegram, dated Feb. 12) on Thursday night last with 18 shipwrecked mariners. Capt. Duncan reports that on the morning of the 7th he sighted a four-masted sailing vessel with all sails set ashore on the rocks near the Impenjali River, near the Port of Shepstone. There was a heavy swell breaking clear over the ship, and the crew were seen waving clothes, some clinging to the rigging, and some to the end of the jib-boom. The chief officer of the Norham Castle, Mr. Whitehead, volunteered to go in a boat and attempt their rescue, and succeeded, after much difficulty, in taking off the 18 men. Mr. Whitehead behaved with great bravery. It was only after several attempts that a line could be attached and communication made with the ship; and this was only effected by Mr. Whitehead jumping into the sea and swimming with a line round his waist. He was met half-way by an apprentice from the wrecked ship with another line. The two lines were joined in the water, and by this means 17 of the crew were hauled aboard the boat in an exhausted condition. The captain of the ship was washed off the poop, but was rescued by Mr. Whitehead, who again jumped into the sea and swam with him back to the boat. Five men were still on board clinging to the jib-boom, but the surf was so heavy that it was impossible to get near them. The boat returned to the Norham Castle for rockets and other apparatus, but before she got back to the wreck the five men were either washed off or dropped into the sea with the object of swimming ashore. They were not seen again. Ten men were missing altogether, but one has since got to land, and two bodies have been since washed ashore. It is feared that seven others were drowned. The wrecked vessel was the Fasedale, Capt. Gillespie, from Java to Lisbon, with sugar. Mr. Whitehead was presented with an address by the passengers of the Norham Castle, and also with an illuminated address from the inhabitants of Durban, in recognition of his heroism.

A Local Government Board inquiry is being held at Southampton as to giving powers to the corporation to buy up an extensive area of slum property in the ancient part of the town, and effect a vast improvement by the erection of workmen's dwellings and model lodging-houses.

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## LATEST NEWS ITEMS.

### HOME.

Transit through the Suez Canal has now been resumed.

Col. P. Fitzgerald died at his residence at Alresford of pleurisy and pneumonia.

It is feared Professor Blackie is sinking. His condition is most grave.

Sir Philip Mansfield, M.P., has been temporarily laid aside from his Parliamentary duties by an attack of gout.

"Suicide while temporarily insane" was the verdict returned at the inquest on Henry Burke Godwin, town clerk of Newbury, Berks, who shot himself at Leicester.

The remainder of the miners employed at Glasshoughton Colliery, near Leeds, on Friday, received notices to cease work owing to disputes respecting dirt and the new price-list.

A general meeting was held at the Officers' Club House, Aldershot, on Friday, at which the Duke of Connaught presided, to make arrangements for the Army Rifle Meeting.

A Windsor telegram states that on St. David's Day the Etonians opened their boating season with the usual procession of boats up the Thames as far Boveney Lock and back to Windsor Bridge.

On Friday the huge masses of ice on the Clyde at Glasgow swept nine harbour steamers from their moorings, sinking one and damaging the others. One of the landing-stages was washed away.

A miner named Hore, when proceeding underground at Levant Mine, Cornwall, on Thursday night, fell out of the man-engine, and fractured his skull. When picked up he was quite dead.

A rival Welsh Disestablishment Bill has been put forward by a number of Liberal Churchmen and Moderate Nonconformists in Wales. It proposes disestablishment without disendowment.

Sergt. Jones shot himself at Norton Bars, near Worcester, on Friday. He had been under arrest on a serious charge, but managed to get his rifle, loaded it, and placed the muzzle in his mouth, blew the back of his head away.

Early on Friday Col. S. P. Lea, late of the 57th and 23rd King's Own Borderers and South Mayo Militia, a Military Knight of Windsor, died at his residence, the Royal Foundation, Windsor Castle. The death of Col. Lea causes a second vacancy in the Lower Foundation.

The Royal Commission on Agriculture met again at Great George-street, Westminster, on Friday, and adjourned till March 14. It is understood that an important witness who was to have been examined last week is suffering from influenza, and is unlikely to be able to attend earlier than the date named.

W. Greening of Leeds, district secretary of the Kingston Unity of Oddfellows, was arrested on Friday upon charges of withholding money belonging to the Order. The accused, who occupied a leading position in a Leeds establishment, disappeared some weeks ago, and an examination of his books showed that they were not satisfactory.

At Lambeth on Friday, John Meldon, 32, porter, was charged on remand before Mr. Birrell, Q.C., with stealing from No. 34, Jasper-road, Upper Norwood, two gold lockets, value £3, the property of Mrs. Maitland Summerville. He was further charged with obtaining the sum of 10s. from Capt. G. W. Grice Hutchinson, M.P., by false pretences. Six months' hard labour on the first charge, and one month on the second.

At Manchester, Mrs. Moran was charged with assaulting a music-hall artist, Miss Lawrence. Whilst the latter was singing at the People's Concert Hall a quantity of tripe was thrown out of a side box and hit her in the face. This was followed by a shower of carrots. The occupant of the box had to be removed by the officials to protect them from indignation. Mrs. Moran was fined £4 12s. 8d.

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CIGARETTE PAPERS.  
By JOSEPH HATTON.

The Red Rag of Political Economy.

I would not venture to return to the question of "Fair Trade," "Reciprocity," and other antidotes to the present depression but for the numerous letters that I have received from readers of "The People," some of which have been reprinted—notably certain fervent and well argued answers by Mr. D. C. Barker, of Montreal, which I find have been addressed to the leading Canadian journals, giving to "Cigarette Papers" a fiscal and political importance which one does not desire. At the same time such recognition is a sufficient excuse for another passing reference to a question which by-and-bye will be in the front rank of Parliamentary debates. The labouring classes as a political power have not yet made themselves familiar with the present working of strict Free Trade principles. They are on the lines of the purest Christianity, it is true; you turn your cheek to the smiter. He kills some national industry of yours; you still receive his goods freely and untaxed. To discriminate against him on the plea of "Reciprocity" is in the chief platform of "Fair Trade," which the late Lord Randolph Churchill advocated. It is in this direction that the Reichstag is this week being moved by Baron Stumm, an Imperialist, and Herr Moeller, a Liberal, to add to the Customs Law a new paragraph stipulating that dutiable goods from countries which discriminate against German vessels and merchandise as compared with those from other countries should be subjected to a surtax of 100 per cent, and that a duty should be imposed on those articles which have hitherto been admitted duty free. What is good for a nation at one time may not be good at another. The trouble is that the word "Protection" acts like a red rag to a bull when uttered in presence of a staunch Free Trader, and he begins by calling names, and ends by morally punching heads. Call it "Revenue" instead of "Protection" and the thing is possible. Her Majesty's present Government have already given us a striking example in point. They tax Lancashire cottons in India as a measure of protection to the Indian manufacturer, but they describe it as "an Imperial necessity" and "for revenue purposes." From a dozen letters which have been addressed to me I claim attention to one from "A Working Man." Here and there I have made a slight revision of the writer's style; otherwise it stands as I received it, and may be taken as typical of that want of knowledge of the meaning of unreciprocal "Free Trade" which is general. I fancy, among our fellow-subjects who work mostly with their hands.

## What a Working Man Thinks.

"I had no notion that we taxad by foreigners and they wasn't taxed by us," writes my correspondent. "I always thought as Free Trade was Free Trade. Do you mean to say as the foreigner comes into our market and isn't even put on a level with our producer? That is, don't he pay nothing? And when we send our goods to him does he put a heavy tax on them while we receive his free? That's what my neighbour says is the explanation of Free Trade. You see we gets banded together so much talking to our leaders that we don'ts'nt out of work and got nothing else to do but have no time to study these things. Seems to me as something's very wrong. No doubt farmers don't work on the land as they used, sending their children to swell schools; and then there is the landlord, and the steward, and the bailiff, and others to get their pickings, and the land don't stand it. But for all that when yous tell me that every little twopenny-'apenny farmer abroad can send his eggs and his chickens and his fruit and his cheese, and no end of other things, and gets them to our market at cheaper rates by sea and rail that it costs the English farmer, and that he pays nothing towards English taxes, why it do appear to be on a wrong footing, seeing that our land is going out of cultivation; nor to name felons in prisons competing with brush-makers and marts, and the like to the extent of millions a year. Sir Harcourt says he wishes things was still cheaper, and no doubt they will be if foreign prisons is to be turned into factories, making brushes, and marts, and boots for England. But what's the good of all the cheapness if we working men gets more and more out of work, and has less and less money to buy things with? I don't see no sense in having foreign things cheap if we has to lay down our tools and let our land go out of cultivation to make way for goods from abroad. Better we was all at work on the land and in our own factories, even if we had to pay more to pay for things; bless my soul what is the use of turning down and saving next to nothing on account of the foreigner who can live on half what we can and work his bloom' head off for fourpence; I'd rather give a bit more for my butter, a bit more for my coat, a bit more for my boots, than help to keep hard-up labourers and mechanics in the workhouse and worse. It's only just lately that this question of buying in the cheapest market, as they call it, has got under my wool, and I don't think it bears out its name of Free Trade. But as the great French martyr said, 'Oh, Liberty, what crimes are committed in thy name!'"

## Comparisons are Odorous.

If my correspondent's closing quotation is a trifle inconsequential, and may partake of the character of bathos in the opinion of a few smokers who roll these papers over their afternoon coffee, it is far more appropriate than the high-falutin' nonsense which certain worshippers of the New, so-called, in fiction are permitting themselves on both sides of the Atlantic. "Trilby" is said to be "finer than 'Vanity Fair'" Stevenson is a "greater master than Dickens." Mere-dith is the "Browning of imaginative literature," and "Weyman eclipses Scott." I am sure no one can be more astonished at these judgments than the living authors themselves. Poor Stevenson had a modest estimate of his own work. He did not think half as much of it as Andrew Lang does. No writer, he confessed, had done so much with so little capacity. Since it appeared in "Harper's Magazine" I have not read Du Maurier's masterpiece. But one need not have studied "Trilby" or "Peter Ibbetson," to say that as an author it is "Hyperion to a satyr" to compare. The author with Du Maurier, the famous "Punch artist himself," could probably agree with this; for he has shown throughout his literary work a keen appreciation of his literary model. Mr. Du Maurier, who had already won his

spur in one of the most interesting fields of art, has every reason to feel proud of the position he has made in the world of fiction, whatever foolish adulators may say or hostile critics deny.

## Fiction "Up to Date."

It is said by a certain section of the reading public that "Trilby" is not quite the book that a clever young girl would allow her mother to read, and it is pointed out that the heroine, an artist's model who "sits" in the condition of Leland's mermaid. It will interest aspiring novelists and young people who contemplate financial invasions into the territories of literature and art to learn that Messrs. Harpers have made something like £20,000 by "Trilby." It has sold by the million, working up tons of paper occupying printing machines day and night for months. Harpers are said to have given Du Maurier £1,000 for the copyright. They are now voluntarily paying him a royalty on sales. No story of the Victorian era has so completely taken hold of the American public. Detractors say that the personal attack on Whistler (for which the publishers made a public apology), coupled with reports of libel suits, and its "woman with a past" of the up-to-date character (or want of it), excited the curiosity of Transatlantic readers, and accounted for the first great rush of success. I must say that the winter is a wonderful time for reading, and for the most part the winter is a month of the year when I sit at home, and with the exception of that frost in mind I quite expect things in the garden will suffer more than they did, as the frost, though perhaps not more severe, has been more sustained. There is time yet to strike cuttings of cabbages, and to have a few more cuttings if any have been injured by frost, but as far as the effect of the winter is at present visible, the chief losses will be among the green vegetables, and the cabbages, and also a few more of cabbages and carrots. Lettuce will in many places be cut off; even winter onions and spinach have been cut down, and are now a mass of decay, probably both of them will shoot again, but there is sure to be a scarcity of green beans, and so on. I have made a small attempt to raise a few more cuttings on the old beds as soon as possible. Apples, too, are scarce, and rhubarb will be late, unless covered with boxes or pots, and surrounded with warm manure. After the rest are ready by the low temperature, things will burst rapidly, and a good deal of work will be done on the old beds as soon as possible. The winter is a good deal of trouble, but a covering of warm manure. Another matter that is troubling us a good deal is the loss of its success.

## Kruger and Rhodes.

It is mentioned by a contemporary that President Kruger has no music in his soul. The fact is illustrated by his remark at a social gathering where one of Bloemfontein's sweetest lady singers gave an artistic rendering of a popular song. The lady of the house, turning to the President, asked him how he liked it. "I go into the world when I want to hear the she-wolf scream," was the blunt reply. One who knows Privy Councillor Rhodes tells me that the uncrowned king has no ear for music. "It represents to him neither melody nor harmony, it is just sound." Fortunately for the new country Mr. Rhodes is a gentleman. If he had thought of compelling a lady to sing to a she-wolf he would have spared his hostess what the reporter call "the bluntness" of "Oom Paul."

## No Ear for Music.

Many famous men have been destined of a receptive faculty for the charms of music. Dr. Johnson was one. Though he spoke slightly of music, he once listened patiently to Miss Thrale while she played upon the harpsichord. Scott found "a complicated harmonies" like "a battle of confused though pleasing sounds." Charles Lamb had no ear for music, and Sir Humphry Davy couldn't even catch the simple air of the National Anthem. He was a Volunteer and could not keep step. This is curious, considering that Mr. Thistleton Dyer says, "what a fine perception he had of the beautiful in Nature, and was able to grasp."

All that we behold,

From this green earth, of all the mighty world, Of eyes and ear, both what they half create What perceive."

Dr. Arnold confessed his inability to appreciate music of any kind, and an organ in the streets was quite as good in Pope's estimation as the grandest performance of an oratorio. Though Coleridge had the gift of lyrical numbers, he did not care for instrumental or vocal music. James Watt could not tell one note from another, and Thos. Telford said the only difference he recognised between one tune and another was that there was a difference in the noise. Speaking of a grand concert which he attended at Shrewsbury in aid of the infirmary, "it was all very fine," he said (as chronicled by Mr. Dyer in his "Great Men at Play"), "I have no doubt, but I would not give a son of Jock Stewart for the whole lot of it. The melody of sound is thrown away upon me. One looks one word of Mrs. Jordan has more effect than all the fiddlers in England." So Kruger and Rhodes are in good company; but let us hope they have not a heavy tax on them while we receive his free? That's what my neighbour says is the explanation of Free Trade. You see we gets banded together so much talking to our leaders that we don'ts'nt out of work and got nothing else to do but have no time to study these things. Seems to me as something's very wrong. No doubt farmers don't work on the land as they used, sending their children to swell schools; and then there is the landlord, and the steward, and the bailiff, and others to get their pickings, and the land don't stand it. But for all that when yous tell me that every little twopenny-'apenny farmer abroad can send his eggs and his chickens and his fruit and his cheese, and no end of other things, and gets them to our market at cheaper rates by sea and rail that it costs the English farmer, and that he pays nothing towards English taxes, why it do appear to be on a wrong footing, seeing that our land is going out of cultivation to make way for goods from abroad. Better we was all at work on the land and in our own factories, even if we had to pay more to pay for things; bless my soul what is the use of turning down and saving next to nothing on account of the foreigner who can live on half what we can and work his bloom' head off for fourpence; I'd rather give a bit more for my butter, a bit more for my coat, a bit more for my boots, than help to keep hard-up labourers and mechanics in the workhouse and worse. It's only just lately that this question of buying in the cheapest market, as they call it, has got under my wool, and I don't think it bears out its name of Free Trade. But as the great French martyr said, 'Oh, Liberty, what crimes are committed in thy name!'"

## A Reminiscence of Charles Read.

On the other hand, how many other celebrities have rejoiced in their passion for music. One likes to know at Carlyle's love music. He stated noise we know. Witness his double-lined room at Chelsea. He is always to me a pathetic figure with his dyspepsia and his pipe, and one knows what pleasure he must at some time have derived from music when he could have written. "The meaning of music has on us?" A kind of inarticulate, unfathomable speech which leads us to the edge of the infinite, and lets us for a moment gaze into that. Gainsborough had no patience to learn music, but he played on several instruments. One day Col. Hamilton, who was a master of the violin, played to him. He was so enraptured that, with the tears rolling down his cheeks, he exclaimed, "Go on, and I will give you that picture of the 'Boy at the Stile' you have so often wished to buy of me!" 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(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)  
**THE CONVICT SHIP.**  
BY W. CLARE RUSSELL.**CHAPTER XVIII.**

SHE IS TAKEN SEVERAL OF THE COMMANDERS.  
I was awaked from a deep sleep by the glare of a lantern upon my eyes, by the weight of a heavy hand upon my shoulder, and by a deep voice roaring out, "Here are they! Another convict, is it? Who's to say what's right aboard a craft where everything's wrong! Out you come, my lively!" and still half asleep, and blinded by the light, and deafened by the fellow's roaring voice, I was dragged, as though I had been a child, out of the sail and held erect.

A second man holding a lantern raised it to my face and peered at me. I had seen both fellows in this place before; they were the boatswain and the salemaker.

"What are you a-doing down here?"

The boatswain now let me go, and I stood upright before the two men, still dazed and horribly frightened, though my wits were slowly returning.

"I'm doing no harm," said I, blinking at the light, which, as it was held close, put an insufferable pain into my eyes. "I hid myself. I want to get to Australia."

"Australia, is it?" thundered the boatswain. "Why, you young rooster, we know we aint bound to Australia? Where did ye come aboard?"

"Woolwich."

"D'ye know this is a convict ship?"

"Yes, I know it."

"Has he been a-broaching of anything?" said the salemaker, holding high the lantern and slowly sweeping its light round the interior.

"What are ye?" said the boatswain, whose voice was louder than that of any man I had ever heard or could dream of.

"A runaway boy," said I. "Take me on deck. I'm sick for the want of light."

"Sail, d'ye hear him?" said the boatswain. "By the great anchor, as my old mother used to say, but here's one. I allow, as has squeaked through the haws pipe on his road to the quarter deck, for damn me if he aint a ordering of us already."

"What's your trade, Jimmy?" said the salemaker, addressing me. "Nuxman of Liverpool, or are you a locomotive, boy? Self-lagged, by the Lord!"

"Come along aft and see the captain," said the boatswain.

He then spoke to the salemaker about the salts which they had apparently descended to view, and, catching me by the arm, walked me under the hatch, where he came to a stand.

"Been here since Woolwich, ye say?"

"Yes, I answered.

"All in the dark?"

"Yes."

"What have you eaten and drunkin?"

"I brought some food with me."

"Are you one of a gang?" and here he rolled a pair of large, glassy eyes over the cake and coils of rope. He was a very powerful seaman, deeply bitten by small-pox, and without a right ear.

"I am alone," said I.

"Up ye go," he cried, and he partly hoisted and partly tossed me through the hatch on to the upper deck.

It was broad day, though the interior of the forecastle into which I had emerged was gloomy. Beyond the forecastle entrance the white and windy sunshine was coming and going to the frequent sweep of clouds athwart the sky. The brightness of that light thrilled my eyes with pain, and I turned my back upon it, putting my hand to my head for a few moments.

"Isn't everybody you see, mate, what goes to sea afore the mast as signs on?" said the boatswain, generally addressing a few sailors who had risen from their sea chests or lounged out of the shadow forward to look at me.

"If this here was a female convict ship, Mr. Balla," said one of the men, "you'd find that there's a covey was after one of the gals."

"Let him wash himself," said another seaman, speaking with his hands plunged deep in his pockets, "and there'll be nothin' likeable aboard us. Dumm'd if he don't remind me of my Mary Hans."

"Let 'm sit," said another of the sailors. "I've got a drop of grog in my chest. I started on my first voyage in the fore peak and knows what head seas mean down there to a country stonch."

"Sit and breathe," said the boatswain, backing me to a chest. "Fetch your sup along, Joe. He don't look much of a rascal, do he?" and I observed that he eyed me very closely, and with looks of surprise and doubt which somewhat softened the fierceness of his one-eyed, glassy-eyed face.

I was glad to sit. My strength had been fearfully overtaken by confinement, and by my mental sufferings and want of air. I was afraid I should faint and my secret be discovered. A pannikin with a drain of black rum in it was given to me; I smelt the fiery stuff and asked for water.

"Seat, my warrior, neat, and down with it!" cried the fellow who had given me the rum. "Water's for washin' in. Don't talk of rum and water—soap and water, my heart; that's it."

"Give the lad water," said the boatswain, "blowed if I'm a-going to take him at drunk."

One of the fellows brought a pannikin of water and turned a small quantity into the rum. I looked up into his face and thanked him with a smile and drank.

"Ever at sea afore, Jacky?" said a sailor.

"D've hear the grit of old hose in his squeak that you asks that?" said the deep-voiced boatswain.

"And to think," said a very stout-looking sailor, "that the town crier's still a-rolling for him, and his grandmother still a-calling at every public house to see if he aint there."

"What I've say to a rinse, bo', afore ye lay ait," said the fellow who had given me the rum. "A clean face may stand the little chap in with the old man," said he, addressing the boatswain.

"Have a clean up, young un, afore I takes ye ait?" said Mr. Balla.

"Yes," I answered.

On this the boatswain stepped out, and in a few moments returned with a tin of cold water and an old towel.

"Turn to, now, and polish away," said he. "Bear a hand. A clean face is like a clean shirt; it gives a man a chance."

I dipped a corner of the towel into

the water and rubbed my face; and when I looked at the towel I judged I had wanted washing very badly indeed. By this time some 14 or 15 seamen had come about me; they lounged and stared, and commented freely upon my appearance and new suit of pilot cloth. It was the forecastle dinner hour, whence I concluded the time was something after 12. Nearly all the ship's company were below, some still seated on their chests eating, a few in their hammocks smoking, and looking at me over the edge of their swinging beds; some who had drawn close brought their dinners in their hands, a cube of beef, or a hunch of pork on a biscuit that served as a platter. These fellows flourished spear or clasp knives, and they chewed slowly, as men whose teeth had long grown artful and wary in the business of biting on shipboard.

The interior was indeed a grim, gloomy, massive picture; the men were rudely and variously, and some of them half-savagely attired; the place was roofed with hammocks; tiers of bunkers arched into the head, where they vanished in the gloom. A lamp swung under a great beam, and its light was needed, despite the brightness of the day outside, and the shaft of daylight that floated through the open scuttle forward, and hung in the obscurity like a square of luminous mist, as a sunbeam streams through a chink of a closed shutter.

A number of stanchions supported the upper deck, and suits of oilskins, hung upon nails, swayed against these wooden supports like hanged men as the ship bowed and lifted her head. The atmosphere was scarcely supportable with its mingled smells of strong tobacco and the fumes of the kids or tuba, in which the greasy boiled meat had been brought in.

"Aft with us now, youngster," said the boatswain, "and give an account of yourself. And may the Lord ha' mercy upon your soul! This here's a convict ship; there's nothing goin' under six dozen. Everything over that's a yard-arm job."

He grasped me by the arm and walked me out of the forecastle, but I did not feel afraid; my end had been triumphantly accomplished; I needed but look over the rail on either hand to know that we were out upon the wide ocean, that though England indeed could not be very far astern, yet the land was as far away for my purpose as if it had been a thousand leagues distant. And then there was the consideration of my sex to give me nerve; these people were gentlemen; I had but to declare myself to make sure of tender usage. But though I did not mean to do this, and prayed heartily that no occasion might arise to force me into it, yet the sense of it was a refuge that wonderfully supported my spirits, the more particularly now that I had observed there were women on board, and quarters where, should the worst come to the worst, I could live with my own sex.

The captain and the doctor (as I shall henceforth call Surgeon Russell-Ellice for the sake of brevity) eyed me all over for some moments without questioning me, the captain with looks of surprise and wonder that came very nearly to commiseration, the other with frowns and suspicion like fire in his gaze.

"What are you doing on board my ship?" said Captain Sutherland.

"I wish to get to Australia, sir," said I.

"What are you doing on board my ship?" said Captain Sutherland.

"I wish to get to Australia, sir," said I.

"What! Without pay? Do you know that this is a convict ship?"

"Yes, sir."

"I could have him brought to the gangway for this," said the doctor. "Has he been searched, bo'sun?"

"No, sir."

The doctor stamped his foot. "Search him!" he cried.

Captain Sutherland looked on as though he recognised a superior in the doctor. At this moment Will came up the lee ladder and leaned beside the other apprentice, listening and watching.

The boatswain threw open my jacket and drove his huge hands into my pockets. I was thankful not to feel the blood in my cheeks; had this piece of rude handling reddened my face the doctor would have found me out. His soft but scrutinising eyes were upon me.

"He's a plump young man!" exclaimed Captain Barrett in an aside to the commander of the ship. "What's in your hold to make him fat?"

The boatswain drew out my handkerchief, the two new clay pipes I had put into my pocket that I might seem a man when the occasion arose, and the tinder box and matches. Happily I had left the little parcel of candles in the sails. The boatswain dived his immense tarry fingers into the pockets of my waistcoat, and found nothing.

As I advanced with the boatswain I saw Will look, make a step toward the brass rail which protected the fore end of the raised deck, and stare a moment; he then wheeled round, walked to the side, and gazed at the white wash of passing water. The ship under a great spread of canvas, was heeling over and sailing fast, and the steaming swirl alongside was swift and dazzling. I could not see the horizon over the weather bulwarks; but to leeward it was all open, green, ridging, and freckled, with a cold blue sky over the trucks, and many large, white clouds sailing down into the west. Two or three women with shawls over their heads sat on the edge of a little square hatch under the sweep of the poop; some children were running about near them. These women stared very hard at me as I passed.

"A stowaway, sir,"

"When did you find him?"

"Just now, sir."

"Under the forecastle."

"Step him up here."

The boatswain made me ascend the poop ladder, himself following. This was a deck well remembered by me; I had spent a long hour upon it with Tom and Will when we visited the ship in the docks. All we had exchanged here the boatswain in their drifts; the sweep of deck went white as a freshly peeled almond to the grating shaft the wheel; the sunlight sparkled, and the bright brass hawse-hoods mirrored the sun in crimson stars. On high the full-breasted canvas rose in space after space of milky softness, with a stately swaying of the button of the truck as the ship leaned to the sea and lifted to the wind again.

The person who had ordered the boatswain to bring me on to the poop was, as I afterward got to know, the second mate, Mr. Thomas Masters, a full-faced man, short and strong, his nostrils tinged with purple, no visible throat, and strange, leering smile upon his mouth when he looked or spoke.

"He's a duced good-looking character," said Captain Barrett in another aside. "Plump as a partner, he, like Captain Barrett, was attired in undress uniform. I afterwards learned that he was Lieutenant Chinnom, one of the two officers in charge of the guard. They approached and looked hard at me—so hard that I imagined Captain Barrett had divined my sex. Their observation won the attention of Captain Sutherland, by whom I had been unheeded.

"What's your name?" said Captain Sutherland.

"Simon Marlowe, sir."

"What are you?" I hung my head.

"No need," he exclaimed, "to ask if you were ever at sea; your hands are like a woman's."

"He's a duced good-looking character," said Captain Barrett in another aside. "Plump as a partner, he, like Captain Barrett, was attired in undress uniform. I afterwards learned that he was Lieutenant Chinnom, one of the two officers in charge of the guard. They approached and looked hard at me—so hard that I imagined Captain Barrett had divined my sex. Their observation won the attention of Captain Sutherland, by whom I had been unheeded.

"What's your name?" said Captain Sutherland.

"I want to get to some friends in Tasmania, sir," I answered.

"What name?"

"I was ready for him; for weeks I had advanced along the deck a third man

came up out of theuddy, or saloon, been rehearsing too diligently the part I was now playing not to be ready. The three stepped up to me. One was Joseph Sutherland, the captain of the vessel, a lean man with a slight stoop, about 40 years of age. His face was thin; the skin had a look of leather from long exposure to the weather; his eyes were a weak blue with a tear in each corner which kept him mopping with a pocket handkerchief. Yet I liked the expression of his face; there was the heart of a man in it.

The second person was Surgeon Russell-Ellice, H.N., the doctor who had supreme charge of the convicts. This man was without any hair on his face; and the hair on his head was cropped as close as mine was, or a convict's. He had large, soft brown eyes, and a brown skin, blue on the cheeks and lip where he shaved. His mouth was firm, with an expression that seemed to lie between scornfulness and self-complacency. He had a manner of thrusting out his chest and backing his head when he spoke, and of so holding himself when he stood or walked as to stretch the inches of his stature to their limits.

The third person was Captain James Barrett, of the 10th Regiment of foot. He was the captain in charge of the guard. He was of the average type of British officers; smart, well dressed, good-looking, with a glass which he put into his eye to examine me.

I ran my gaze over the faces of these three, not then knowing who they were, though I guessed by their air that they were chiefs of the ship. I did not feel afraid; my end had been triumphantly accomplished; I needed but look over the rail on either hand to know that we were out upon the wide ocean, that though England indeed could not be very far astern, yet the land was as far away for my purpose as if it had been a thousand leagues distant. And then there was the consideration of my sex to give me nerve; these people were gentlemen; I had but to declare myself to make sure of tender usage. But though I did not mean to do this, and prayed heartily that no occasion might arise to force me into it, yet the sense of it was a refuge that wonderfully supported my spirits, the more particularly now that I had observed there were women on board, and quarters where, should the worst come to the worst, I could live with my own sex.

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## OUR OMNIBUS.

## PIPER PAN.

The influenza was answerable for a good many disappointments at the Eugene Oudin Memorial Concert, at St. James's Hall, on Monday afternoon. No less than nine of the artists who had kindly promised to give their services were rendered unable to appear in consequence of their being laid up with the prevailing epidemic. Fortunately, however, so many popular favourites had come forward to show the respect they felt for their late comrade in art, that, in spite of the absence of a goodly list was still left, and a most enjoyable concert resulted; while, I am told, a substantial sum had been secured for the widow and children of the much-regretted singer.

A week or two ago it was the severe frost which made managers, musical and theatrical, shake their heads over scanty audiences and sick artists, and everyone hoped that milder weather would improve matters. And so, I doubt, it would have done if this terrible "fie" had not made its unwelcome re-appearance. Singers are, naturally, particularly susceptible to the malady, their voices being delicate and often fatigued. No fewer than 14 of our best-known vocalists have been attacked, and are still suffering from the disease.

I am glad to see that Miss Ellaline Terriss has quite recovered from her recent indisposition, and is again delighting the eyes and ears of Lyric Theatre audiences with her charming acting and sweet singing in "His Excellency" and "Papa's Wife." The music of the latter little operetta has been composed by Miss Terriss, the libretto being written by her husband, Mr. Seymour Hicks.

It appears that there is a truth in the report that Herr Humperdinck is completing another opera. The now celebrated musician is busily occupied with a new work, but it is not operatic, and if, as I believe, it is an orchestral symphony, it will probably be some time before the gifted composer of "Hansel and Gretel" presents his next opera to the music-loving public.

I think it must have been with some trepidation and much delight that the students of the Royal College of Music heard of the Queen's command for a representation by them, at Windsor, of Leo Delibes' comic opera of "Le Roi à l'Île," in which they appeared at the Prince of Wales' Theatre some months ago, when the work was performed for the first time in London. The performance, commanded by her Majesty, took place on Tuesday evening in the Waterloo Chamber at the Castle, in the presence of the Queen, the Royal Family, and the Court.

Rumour speaks very highly of the overture "From the Scottish Highlands," composed by Mr. Frederick Lamond, a young Scotch pianist, who some time ago made several successful appearances in our concert-rooms. The work will be produced next Thursday at the first concert, this season, of the venerable Philharmonic Society, and is therefore sure of an excellent interpretation.

I paid a second visit to "The Chieftain" at the Savoy Theatre a few evenings ago, and was more delighted than ever with Sir Arthur Sullivan's sparkling, melodious music, and Mr. Burnand's amusing libretto. And the performances in spite of the absence, through illness, of Miss Brandram and Mr. Passmore—was full of "go" and vivacity. Miss Florence St. John, although evidently suffering from a severe cold, sang and acted with unfading spirits, being ably seconded by Mr. Courtney Pounds and their fellow artists, the result being abundant applause and plenty of encores.

Much credit is due to Miss Mathilde Wurm for her efforts at the Queen's Hall in the cause of "musical improvisation," but I am afraid that little or no general interest is felt in such performances now-a-days. Nothing short of genius would make improvising appreciated by the public at large.

The best bit of news that I have heard for some time is to the effect that Senor Sarasate, the famous Spanish violinist, will give four concerts in London this season. With Sarasate concerts and Paderewski recitals taking place again, the musical season will seem complete. These two great artists have been much missed during their long absence.

Another celebrated violinist, Herr Willy Burnster, will make his first appearance in this country on Thursday week at the London Symphony Concert. Herr Burnster, who is a pupil of Dr. Joachim, began playing the violin when only three years old, and is said to be a performer of remarkable brilliancy. I understand that later on he will give some concerts here under the direction of Mr. Vert.

Signor Mascagni's opera, "Dick Ratcliffe," which was produced at La Scala last Saturday, was chiefly composed while he was a student at the Milan Conservatoire. He continued adding different numbers to it until the Sonzogno competition was announced, when he put aside "Dick Ratcliffe" to compose "Cavallino Rusticano." And a lucky thing it was for him that he did so, for up to the time of writing his prize work the celebrated musician was comparatively poor, while since then he has name, and fame, and fortune.

I was pleased to see a much larger attendance at the Queen's Hall last Sunday afternoon. Mr. Lemare's splendid playing on the fine organ, and Mme. Belle Cole's delightful singing, were highly appreciated, both artists winning encores. I hope that Mr. Newman's enterprise is at last meeting with the success it so well deserves.

Dr. Joachim's re-appearance at the Popular Concerts on Monday evening was the signal for a hearty outburst of welcome from one of the largest audiences which has gathered for some time, owing to the inclement weather. The veteran violinist did not execute a solo, but his performance of the beautiful Sonata in D of Brahms, in which Mr. Leonard Borwick played the piano forte part, gave ample proof that he is in perfect "form."

## BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

In July of 1893 an egg of *Zyornis maximus*, the extinct giant bird of Madagascar, was disposed of by Messrs. Stevens, of Covent Garden, for the sum of £25. On Thursday in last week another egg of this bird came under the same hammer, and was knocked down for 45 guineas. Although these seem to be extraordinary prices to be paid for a bird's egg, they are by no means such large amounts as have been given for eggs of the Great Auk, a bird that has become extinct in comparatively recent times. About two years ago the same auctioneers sold a specimen of the latter bird's egg for £225; since then they have sold three others. Of these, one fetched the record price of 300 guineas, and the other two, which had been purchased at a sale a month previously for 36s., were sold in April last for 260 guineas and 175 guineas respectively. There are now known to exist in America and Europe only 70 eggs of the Great Auk.

The *Zyornis*, which is supposed to have been alive about 300 years ago, was a bird of immense size, and so far as we have ascertained from its bones, that are occasionally dug up in Madagascar, was the largest, if not

the tallest, bird that ever existed. Its egg measures about 13 inches in length and 9 inches in breadth, the shell is of enormous thickness, and it has been asserted by some French writers that the natives of Madagascar used the egg as a sort of rolling pin, or crusher. It can be imagined that great strength was required, when the young bird was ready to be hatched, to force itself through such a thick shell.

We have got quite accustomed to hearing of starving and dying birds from all parts of the country, but from Stamford comes the astonishing piece of news that a robin has built a nest in a garden there, and laid three eggs in it. Such a freak is not uncommon in mild winters, but in severe weather like we have had of late, it is quite unacceptable, unless indeed the bird, moved by the great destruction amongst its kind, thinks it expedient to lose no time in the propagation of its own species, and so fill the gap thus occasioned.

The fourth annual meeting of the Society for Protection of Birds was held last week, and their report was a very favourable one. It was stated that the feathers of birds are not now in such great demand for the ornamentation of ladies' head gear as formerly, and that it is thought by some leading ladies of fashion quite bad form to wear them. It can be imagined what countless numbers of these, the loveliest of all creatures, are required to supply the demand when their feathers are in fashion. But this is not all; most of the birds are killed in the breeding season when in their brightest plumage, and when many of them have young ones in the nest, which must consequently die of starvation. It is quite true that Miss Calhoun will have the reversion of the rôle of the heroine, which Mrs. Campbell will "create." Miss Calhoun is an actress of much sombre power; and London playgoers, I think, hardly yet estimate her at her true value.

to the Steinway Hall, for there, under the auspices of Miss Rosa Lee, will be given a performance of the "master's" drama for marionettes, called "Interior." This translated by Mr. William Archer, was published a few months ago in one of the magazines. Miss Frances Allitton has written music for it, and I have no doubt it will be interpreted in very interesting fashion.

The revival of "Sowing the Wind" at the Comedy ought to arouse a good deal of interest. The play was withdrawn, originally, before its popularity had been exhausted; there must be many who have not seen it, and many who would like to see it again. They will have the pleasure of witnessing Mr. Brandon Thomas and Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Sydney Brough, and Mr. Will Dennis in their original parts. As Lord Petworth, young Mr. Harry Irving will have an opportunity of showing what he can do with a character part of sinister tendency—one of those roles in which his father had often excelled. It should also be very interesting to see Miss Evelyn Milland play Rosalind.

Mr. Pinero's new play is in full rehearsal at the Garrick, but it will not be ready by the date put forward by the paragraphs—March 9. It may be expected in the week following. It is a play of strong and wholly serious interest—there is in it no comic relief whatever. But it is a work which everybody must talk about, and which everybody must will reply; "but the other children were so very young, you know." Her own mature age is between four and five years.

## OLD IZAAK.

Anglers have at last a chance of sport, and rejoice in the prospect of getting a few good fish before the season closes. The Thames is free of ice, but the water is very cold and clear. Jack and chub have fed freely during the last few days, and some capital roach are among the spoils of the week.

Mr. Purdie, fishing with N. Bolton at Kingston, had a good take of roach and dace, some of the roach scaling 1lb. each. Mr. Chadwick, piloted by J. Knight, took some thirty dozen roach and dace, in 34 hours, fishing. Morris, Newbury, Colari, Ellis, and Wright, fishing on separate occasions with John Keene, jun., at Staines, each secured fair takes, chiefly of roach and chub.

Some good sport has been had in the Upper Thames, especially at Pangbourne, where some splendid jack have been taken from the Weir Pool. One of 17lb. was landed there by Mr. Johnson on Monday last, and others have lately been caught scaling 17lb., 13lb., and 12lb. respectively.

There is little yet to chronicle from the Lower Thames, except that Nature has not meted out her favours fairly. Compare, for instance, when the severe frosts kill off so many hibernating species, as has been the case this winter, it makes one think that Nature has very much favoured these individuals. One is likely to think, too, when taking into consideration some cases, that Nature has not meted out her favours fairly. Compare, for instance, when the severe frosts kill off so many hibernating species, as has been the case this winter, it makes one think that Nature has very much favoured these individuals. One is likely to think, too, when taking into consideration some cases, that Nature has not meted out her favours fairly. Compare, for instance, when the severe frosts kill off so many hibernating species, as has been the case this winter, it makes one think that Nature has very much favoured these individuals. One is likely to think, too, when taking into consideration some cases, that Nature has not meted out her favours fairly. Compare, for instance, when the severe frosts kill off so many hibernating species, as has been the case this winter, it makes one think that Nature has very much favoured these individuals.

The Arun is fishable again, and during last week several persevering anglers succeeded in getting fish, among them Mr. Meneer, of the Penge Club, who took four bream, going 8lb. 4oz. together. Mr. Glass, of the Walling Green, and others also had takes. The water and weather were described as splendid when the Anglers' Pride fished their match at Amberley last week, and in spite of it, as will sometimes happen, not a fish was caught by the competitors.

The additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens during the week ending Feb. 26 are both numerous and of unusual interest. They include:—Two collared fruit-bats, a black-striped wallaby, three lions, one of which has been presented by H. M. the Queen, a roseate cockatoo, four triangular-spotted pigeons, two harriers, two spotted eagle-owls, two rock-hopper penguins, two stable antelopes, two bridled gauas, a black-headed gull, and a giraffe. It is now nearly three years since a giraffe was represented in the society's collection, the last of the stock having died in March, 1892. Altogether 30 specimens of this animal have been exhibited in the menagerie, of which 17 were born there and 13 were purchased. Formerly it was comparatively easy to obtain giraffes from the interior of Africa, but owing to the closure of the Soudan by the Mahdists, the usual route from Suakin has been cut off. The difficulty at the present time lies in the great distance one has to travel from the south portion of the continent, and consequently great expense, to reach the giraffe in its haunts, and the conveyance of the captured animals back over this long distance to the coast. Until greater facilities exist for obtaining them, specimens of the giraffe will be a rarity in zoological collections, and opportunities of seeing them few and far between.

I should, therefore, advise my friends not to lose the present opportunity of visiting the Zoo to inspect the fine animal that has just arrived there.

## THE ACTOR.

A well-known manager gave me, the other day, a characteristic reason—a reason characteristic of these doleful times—for pressing forward a production in which he was interested—"If I don't make haste and put it on," he said, "I shan't be able to put it on at all. Half of my people are ill. Two of them at rehearsal yesterday were speechless. If I don't hurry the thing on all my people will be down." There could not well be a more eloquent commentary upon the havoc which influenza and other things have been making in theatrical circles.

It was, and is, curious to see the new piece at the Avenue described in the advertisements as "an opera bouffe." What an old world look the expression has! What an age since opera bouffe was the most popular form of theatrical entertainment in London. When was it last seen among us? It must not be confounded with "comic opera," which is much more refined class of art. Opera bouffe always had in it a certain breadth of treatment—an extravagance, moreover, which comic opera scarcely allows itself nowadays. The best of the "opera bouffes" was Miss Emily Soldene.

I hear Mr. T. R. Sachs (president, Piscatorial Society) and other friends are raising a little subscription for the benefit of Mrs. Edon, widow of the late Mr. Edon, of the Buxton Museum fame. Mr. Edon rendered great services to anglers, and was a most energetic worker. He hatched out quantities of trout and salmon, and was well versed in everything relating to fish culture. From the names of those who have responded to Mr. Sachs's appeal, I am sure the case is a deserving one, and one that anglers may well be asked to aid. Contributions should be sent direct to Mr. Sachs, at Rochdale House, Lancashire.

Strong is the vitality of "A Gaiety Girl." Though it has left the West-end, it is for ever cropping up somewhere in London. In the coming week it will be at the Elephant and Castle, and the company contains so many people well known in the metropolis that I dare say many West-end playgoers will find their way to the south side of the drama. Mr. Temperley, Mr. S. W. Wilkinson, Miss Edith Kenward ("the Kangaroo Girl"), and Miss Annie Goward (recently of the Strand) are all in the company, which is under the direction of Miss Cicie Grahame.

The *Epyornis*, which is supposed to have been alive about 300 years ago, was a bird of immense size, and so far as we have ascertained from its bones, that are occasionally dug up in Madagascar, was the largest, if not

the tallest, bird that ever existed. Its egg measures about 13 inches in length and 9 inches in breadth, the shell is of enormous thickness, and it has been asserted by some French writers that the natives of Madagascar used the egg as a sort of rolling pin, or crusher. It can be imagined that great strength was required, when the young bird was ready to be hatched, to force itself through such a thick shell.

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ing Little volume of angling poems from the pen of "Cotswold Lay," (the nom de plume of a greatly respected North London clergyman) which has just been published by Horace Cox. It is a book one never tires of reading. The true Waltonian spirit breathes through every page, and it deserves a wide circulation.

GENERAL CHATTER.

It is a stock argument among temperance fanatics that a working man who abjures stimulants is better off by several pounds a year than those who indulge in strong potations. That is not, of course, perfectly true as matters now stand. But were the whole British population converted to teetotalism, all would stand on the same footing in that economy, and the general standard of living being thus lowered, the odds are that the wage rate would proportionately fall. It is said, too, that teetotalers make up for absence from alcohol by largely increasing their consumption of solid food. Those with whom I have personally foregathered certainly seemed to be endowed with voracious appetites.

Mr. Pinero's new play is in full rehearsal at the Garrick, but it will not be ready by the date put forward by the paragraphs—March 9. It may be expected in the week following. It is a play of strong and wholly serious interest—there is in it no comic relief whatever. But it is a work which everybody must talk about, and which everybody must will reply; "but the other children were so very young, you know."

Miss Evelyn Milland play Rosalind.

As would I repeat what I have already said many a time and oft. Cut your gown from a really good pattern. For the skirt I would suggest one of the newest styles of make that is being much adopted for rich velvet gowns. The front width is cut rather wide, and hangs quite straight at the sides and back; the fulness is arranged in folds. It is a good deal coming into fashion with rich materials, such as velvet and brocade, to have the skirt cut to fall in folds at the sides as well as at the back, at the same time preserving the correct even at the waist. The waistband of the skirt is to be cut long enough just to touch the ground at the back.

In order to enhance the usefulness of the gown it would be well to have two bodices, one for day and one for evening wear. A pretty and becoming make for the day bodice would be a tight-fitting seamless shape with narrow perpendicular lines of jet passementerie, the sleeves full and drooping over the elbows, long train under sleeves trimmed to match the bodice or folded collar bands of coloured silk could be worn with this bodice, as well as numberless pretty lace arrangements.

For the evening bodice a useful and becoming style would be a tight-fitting shape with a deep square cut in front, to be worn either with or without a chemise, according to taste, and very full puffed sleeves of the velvetest, as far as the elbows. An effective trimming would be a broad band of cream guipure lace defining the outer edge of the square opening. For another occasion the lace might be replaced by a band of curled ostrich trimming in a pale shade of colour. Pale pink, yellow, or blue are all good evening colours. The edge of the sleeves should, of course, always be trimmed to correspond with the bodice. There are various other pretty styles of bodice I might suggest, but have not space to do so.

Some charming examples of tailor-made gowns have made their appearance for spring wear, and now that the bitter grip of winter has relaxed its hold it is with a sense of relief we feel may begin to think of pretty frocks. A rather pleasant idea is the introduction of touches here and there of white cloth in a tailor-made costume of some dark colour. I saw this carried out with admirable effect in a smooth surface cloth gown in a lovely soft shade of dark smoke grey.

As there is no sort of question that margarine mixtures are still largely passed off on us people as English butter, the time seems to have arrived for reconsidering the question of compelling margarine manufacturers to give a distinctive colour, other than yellow, to their goods. Margarine is, I believe, quite wholesome, but it is a wicked fraud, all the same, to palm it off as butter at the price of butter. Most of it comes from the continent, and the substitution consequently robs the British farmer as well as cheats the buyer.

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LAST WEEK'S  
LAW AND POLICE.

**INFRINGEMENT A PATENT.**—In *Ducket v. Whitehead*, an action before Mr. Justice Kennedy for an injunction to restrain the defendants from infringing the plaintiff's patent in the matter of water-closet waste-pipes, defendant pleaded that the patent failed because the invention was an old one.—The *Accrington and Burnley Borough Surveyor* proved that plaintiff's patent was effective and new, and his lordship granted the injunction.

**PETITION OF RIGHT.**—The Attorney-general (Sir Robert Reid) applied to the divisional court, consisting of Baron Pollock and Mr. Justice Wright, for a petition of right brought by Edward Ernest Duan might stand over. The petition was engaged to go out to the Oil River Protectorate early in 1892 for a term of three years by Sir Claude Macdonald, H.M. Commissioner. He was discharged prior to the expiration of the term specified, and thereupon claimed compensation. The defence was that in any employment of her Majesty an agreement of this kind was terrible at her Majesty's pleasure.—The full facts, said the Attorney-general, could not be ascertained readily, as Sir Claude Macdonald was engaged in repelling the recent outbreak, and it would be June before he would be in England. The Attorney-general undertaking to apply for a commission to go out and examine Sir Claude Macdonald, their lordships made an order in accordance with that undertaking.

**SHIPPING CASE.**—Mr. Justice Bruce, in the Admiralty Court, heard an important action brought by Messrs. Cory Brothers and Co., coal merchants, of London, against the owners of the Turkish steamship *Mecca*. The action is for the price of coals supplied to the vessel at Port Said and Alexandria. The plaintiff's case was that the master of the vessel had given bills of exchange drawn by him on the owners, and these were dishonoured. The defendants asserted that the items were paid in a general account, which the plaintiffs admitted receiving, but said it did not cover these claims.—The case was adjourned.

**DAISY BELL.**—Mrs. Fuller, professionally known as Katie Lawrence, proceeded against the Blackpool Winter Gardens and Pavilion Company for damages on the ground that they allowed the popular song, "Daisy Bell," to be sung at their place of entertainment without her permission.—Mr. Justice Kennedy, in delivering judgment, said the defendants would be liable for nominal damages unless they could prove consent, but they were entitled to rely on the printed notice of reservation on the title page of the song as published. The plaintiff had never enforced her alleged rights nor objected to the printed notice, which he held, amounted to a consent. Judgment accordingly for the defendants, with a stay of execution.

**REDUCED CAPITAL.**—Mr. Justice Stirling heard the petition (unopposed) of the Paravayen Development Company, Ltd., to reduce capital, and granted the application.—A similar petition on behalf of the Madras Ice Manufacturing Company was granted.

**A RAILWAY CASE.**—A divisional court, consisting of Baron Pollock and Mr. Justice Wright before them the action of Maltby and another v. Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln Railway Company. The question was whether the railway had the right to take a part of a certain cellar belonging to the plaintiffs, who are large wine merchants, and not to take the whole. It was held that under various Acts of Parliament governing the case the railway company were within their right.

**ACTION BY TRADE UNIONISTS.**—The action of Flood and another, which came up in the Queen's Bench Division on further consideration, was an action in which two members of the Shipwrights' Union sued certain officials of the "Boilermakers" and Iron and Steel Ship Builders' Society for causing their dismissal from their employment.—Judgment was reserved.

**A COWES ACTION.**—In *Marvin v. Taylor*, a case decided before Mr. Justice Romer, in the Chancery Division, the plaintiff sought to restrain defendants from lessening the height of a party wall on their property at Cowes, in the Isle of Wight.—It was held that the plaintiff was entitled to judgment, and the court granted an injunction to prevent the defendant removing bricks from the top of the wall.

## Bow-street.

**QUEEN'S CASE.**—John Smith, middle-aged, was charged with being concerned with a woman not in custody in stealing from the person.—The prosecutor, a short, dark man, wearing a grey cape and black turban, is a native of Morocco, and was described on the charge sheet as an artist. His name is Hadji Béchir Auzal, and in order to make this known to inquirers he carries in his pocket a seal with which he is able to print his name in full. He was sworn on the Koran. As he kissed each side of the book, he pointed upwards, and said, "Me no like man; me like God." In answer to the clerk's query as to where he lived, he promptly replied, "In a house."—The constable in charge of the case explained that prosecutor was staying at Blythe-terrace, Westminster Bridge-road.—A broken English prosecutor went on to explain that on the previous night he met prisoner and a woman in a street (known by the police to be Bedfordbury). The man took his purse from his pocket, and "as quick as that" (snapping his fingers) handed it to the woman, who ran away. He was about to follow when prisoner seized and held him.—P.C. 452 E stated that he heard cries of "Thief!" and found prosecutor holding the prisoner.—Remanded.

**SCENE IN THE STRAND.**—Ellen Fitzpatrick was charged with committing wilful damage. On Friday afternoon prisoner went up a florist's shop in the Strand, and deliberately kicked a large pane of plate-glass, the bottom of which is only about a foot from the ground. She was seized by a private detective named Hill, but before she could be taken away she kicked the window a second time. The damage done amounted to £2. She said she wanted to some violets that were in the window. She was perfectly sober at the time.

**Mr. Lushington.**—Have you any witness to call?—Prisoner: Only the Almighty.—By Mr. Lushington: I am a Roman Catholic, and belong to Moorfields Church.—Remanded.

## Mansion House.

**ALLEGED OUTRAGE ON A WOMAN.**—Jacob Schlossmawich, was charged with criminally assaulting a married woman named Hiermann.—The complainant said that she visited the shop of the prisoner (who carries on the business of a barber in Aldgate) after it had been closed for the purpose of cleaning up, and she alleged that on Monday evening, after she had finished her usual duties, the prisoner suddenly seized her, and having poured something over her head, pulled her down and assaulted her. She lost consciousness for a short time, but as soon as she recovered, she rushed from the shop, followed by the accused. He offered her £2, and asked her not to say anything to her husband. The complainant, however, made a complaint to her husband the same night, and the following morning the matter was placed in the hands of the police. The prisoner, who denied the charge, was apprehended by Det.-supt. Cox.—Committed for trial.

## Westminster.

**ASSAULT ON A CONSTABLE.**—Thomas Tatton, 40, describing himself as an ex-banman of the Devonshire Regiment, was charged

with assaulting P.C. 66 B.—On Friday afternoon the constable saw the prisoner with two companions in Lower Sloane-street apparently endeavouring to surround an elderly man with the object of robbing him. When the officer interfered prisoner's companions ran away, but the accused rushed at the constable, and in the course of the struggle that ensued savagely kicked him on the leg.—The evidence of the constable was substantiated by two private witnesses.—Six weeks.

**SERVANT'S YOUNG MAN.**—Ernest Kershaw, 22, of Crampton-street, Newington Butts, was brought up in custody on remand charged with stealing six gold rings, valued at £20, the property of Mr. H. Esmond, of Whitehead Grove, Chelsea.—Prisoner had been "paying attention" to one of Mrs. Esmond's servants, and while visiting the girl on the 11th ult. entered her mistress's dressing-room and stole half-a-dozen rings. Five of these were found on him when apprehended by Det.-supt. Maguire. In answer to Mr. Sheil, the sergeant said he understood prisoner had been "hard up" lately, as the young woman had been in the habit of lending him money from time to time.—Four months.

## West London.

**FULHAM BABY FARMING CASE.**—An investigation was commenced by the National Society for the Protection of Children against three women concerned in what is known as the Fulham Baby Farming Case. The mother, Florence Brunger, was summoned for exposing her infant; also Sarah Cox, of Claxton-grove, Fulham, who received the child two hours after its birth; and Mary Ann Butcher, otherwise Boucher, the wife of Ifley-road, Hammersmith, for aiding and abetting Sarah Cox in the commission of the offence.—Mr. Hutton prosecuted on behalf of the society, and said he proposed to put the mother of the child in the box to give evidence against the other defendants.—Mr. Curtis Bonnett then bound Florence Brunger over in recognisances in £10, for her good behaviour for 12 months.—The facts of the case have been fully reported. It is alleged that Florence Brunger arranged with Butcher, who passed by the name of Boucher, to be confined in her house, through having seen an advertisement, the terms being £10. A week with three guineas for the confinement. She gave birth to a boy on Jan. 5, and two hours afterwards the child was removed by Cox, who agreed to keep it for 6s. a week. The mother wished to keep the child for some time, but Butcher said it must go away at once. It was a foggy night and snow was falling. The same night the child was found to be suffering from a bad cold and died on the following Monday.—Adjourned for the attendance of the doctor.

**REFRACTORY CONDUCT.**—An inmate of Kensington Workhouse, named Johanna Dingree, was charged with refractory conduct.—Mr. W. Brimblecombe, the master, said that on Friday he sent for the prisoner and gave her instructions to sort the linen as required by the laundry superintendent. She absolutely refused to do the work unless she was paid for it. She had been before the house committee, who ordered her to be given into custody. The refusal to do the work commenced on Tuesday, and he gave her bread and water for two meals. The Prisoner: You took the law into your own hands. You should have brought me here.—Mr. W. J. Vassie, assistant clerk to the guardians, informed the magistrate that it was present at the meeting of the house committee, and saw the accused behave unkindly.—Seven days.

## North London.

**GIRL AND HER LOVER.**—A decently-dressed working girl asked if she could leave home.—Mr. Lane: How old are you?—Applicant: Seventeen years and four months.—Mr. Lane: Yes, you can leave home; but what do you want to leave for?—Applicant blushed and said she wanted to get married.—The girl: She had on the previous day left home and was now living with her "young man's" sister. Her mother objected to her getting married and to her going out with anyone.—Mr. Lane: I dare say she knows more about it than the magistrate does.—Applicant: But she keeps me under so.—Mr. Lane: Perhaps that is good for you. Who is the young man?—The girl: He is a carman, 22 years of age.—The young man here came forward and Mr. Anderson asked I should say that you are not old enough to set up housekeeping—22 and 17: This time 12 years hence you will have a houseful of people to look after. I should advise you to wait a few years and save some money to meet the responsibilities which will soon enough come upon you.—The girl: I want to know, sir, if mother can make no good again. She threatens me.—Mr. Lane: If I were to advise you, or if you have all the advice in the world, you would simply follow your own ends. I have told you all I can, now go away both of you.

## Clerkenwell.

**DISORDERLY HOUSE.**—Catherine Driscoll, 43, wardrobe dealer, was charged with keeping a disorderly house in Euston-road, and Jane Holmes, 24, with assisting in its management.—Det.-supt. Robinson, E Division, said he had known the place as a disorderly house for some time. It was ostensibly a private hotel, having outside "Edmonds' Private Hotel," but no legitimate hotel business was ever done there. He, together with Sgt. P.C. 452 E and P.C. 302 E, gave evidence which left no doubt as to the character of the house.—Mr. Roche Smith fined Driscoll £20, with three guineas costs, or three months, and Holmes, who had merely acted as servant, £5, or 14 days.

**THEFT AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.**—Wm. Peers, 17, and Thos. Scrivener, 16, were charged with stealing a quantity of lead from the Agricultural Hall, Islington.—The prisoners were seen the previous night carrying lead in Denmark-road, and were stopped by two constables, a third person who was with them escaping. The lead was afterwards found to have been taken from the tower in the roof of the hall, where it had been stored. The lads, when charged, said two others had thrown the lead down, and they were merely taking it away.—Percy, who was proved to be a lad of good character, was allowed to go on his father's recognisances.—Scrivener, who said his home was in Newington Butts, was remanded.

**SHOP THIEF.**—Catherine Griffin was charged with stealing a silk neck-scarf, value 3s. 1d., the property of A. B. Brown. The prosecutor is a draper in Caledonian-road, and on the previous afternoon prisoner entered the shop and asked to see some men's silk scarves. While she sat by the counter she was observed to have her hands under her jacket in a suspicious manner. She was spoken to, and asked to open her jacket, when the scarf that had been on the counter was found there. She was accordingly handed over to the care of P.C. 540 Y.—Having been previously convicted, she was sent for trial.

## Thames.

**WORKHOUSE MASTER AND NURSE.**—Mr. W. B. Tetley, stated to be the master of a union in Sussex, was summoned by Alice Orman, a nurse, to show cause why an order should not be made on him to contribute towards the support of her child.—Defendant did not appear, and a witness proved that he was in receipt of £60 a year, together with board and lodging.—Ordered to pay 5s. a week until the child was 16 years of age, and £2 10s. costs.

## Stratford.

**YOUNG WOMAN AND HER BABY.**—Edmund R. Fulton, of Churchill-road, Walthamstow, was summoned to show cause why he should

## INQUESTS.

**FATAL FIRE IN THE STRAND.**—Mr. Lang held an inquest on the body of Margaret Ann Dougherty, aged 3.—John Dougherty, father, stated that he was a caretaker and messenger employed at the London Art Union, Strand. A child was born on Feb. 23, 1892. Defendant had admitted the paternity, and paid money regularly till November.—Complainant was a widow, and soon after getting into the bed-faint, and was carried out of court. Later on Mr. Blanchard Wontner arrived, and said he represented the defendant. The summons, he said, was heard in January at the Clerkenwell Police court, and after a long hearing was dismissed on its merits. He now urged that it was not competent for the case to be re-opened, unless the complainant was prepared to adduce fresh corroborative evidence on some material particular. Assuming that the complainant had some corroborative evidence the case should go back to the magistrate who heard the original summons.—Mr. F. 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## THE CHARGE AGAINST A MIDWIFE.

FURTHER PROOF. Evidence.

Mildred Mary Rake, 32, a midwife of Macclesfield, Kentish-town, was tried before the Marylebone Police Court on Saturday for having caused the death of Hilda Gray by communicating puerperal fever while attending her in January last. Mr. Bodkin prosecuted for the Treasury, and Mr. Fred Palmer, solicitor, defended the accused. The first witness now called was Dr. Jeremiah Ambrose, assistant to Dr. Long, of Queen's-crescent, Kentish Town, who spoke of attending two cases in which the accused acted as midwife. In the first case, that of a Mrs. Wheeler, Mrs. Rake merely did the duties of a nurse, but it was quite possible that she came into actual contact with the patient. The other case was that of a Mrs. Leggett, whom he attended the night before for puerperal fever. Dr. L. B. Claremont, of 31 Macclesfield, a district medical officer of the parish, said he was called in January to see a Mrs. Richards, of Inkerman-road, who had been confined some 13 or 14 days. She was suffering from a mild attack of puerperal fever. Under his treatment she recovered. He notified the case to Dr. Sykes. He had not had a case of the kind since last October or November. He also attended another case of puerperal fever on Jan. 8, the patient being Mrs. Emily Leverd, who died from the disease on the 10th. Mrs. Plummer, Castle-road, mother of Mrs. Wheeler, said her daughter was confined on Jan. 18. The prisoner attended her. Later on Dr. Ambrose was called. Her daughter became feverish the same night. Mrs. Henderson, another midwife, was then called in, and then Dr. Long. Amy Sims said her sister, Ellen Beckwith, was confined on Jan. 18, and was attended by the prisoner. On the following Sunday the patient had cold shivers. Mrs. Rake was sent for, and she called in Dr. Long, who continued to attend her until the 29th, when she died—Margaret Clark, Harwood-street, said she had a lodger named Leverd, who was confined in January last. The prisoner attended the case. On the following morning the patient was in great pain. The prisoner called, and said it was due to indigestion. Subsequently Dr. Claremont attended, and the patient died on the 10th. May Richards, Inkerman-road, married said the prisoner attended her on the 3rd January in her confinement. On the 4th she felt ill, and on the 5th prisoner called and said she was not surprised that she (witness) was not getting on as nicely as usual as the child had been still born. The prisoner called every other day until the 13th, when Dr. Claremont was called in. Other evidence having been given, the prisoner was further remanded.

## DISASTER TO PORTUGUESE ARMS.

REPORTED KAIFIS MASSACRE.

The s.s. Hawarden Castle, which arrived at Plymouth on Saturday from Cape Town, brought advices of a panic at Lourenco Marques in consequence of a disaster to the Portuguese troops. A party of rebel Kaifis entered the camp at Marques under the pretence of being "friends" at an early hour in the morning. Immediately after passing the guards the rebels made a deadly attack with assegais, and, being reinforced by others, slaughtered the sleeping soldiers, many of whom were suffering from fever. The Portuguese officers soon roused their men, who displayed splendid courage, but for some time the scene was terrible. Lieut. Manuel, whilst arousing his commanding officer, was stabbed in the back. The troops formed into square, and by the aid of the Maxim guns, the enemy was driven from the camp. An attempt was made to drive the Kaifis to the river, where they would be exposed to the fire of the gunboats. The natives, however, avoided this snare, and retired into the bush, leaving 500 killed. On the Portuguese side it is reported that 200 were killed and sixty wounded. The Cape papers state that every attempt has been made to minimise the result of the disaster, but that the above details have been verified by correspondents.

## STRANGE AFFAIR AT LEYTON.

Last week, at the London Hospital, Mr. Baxter held an inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Alice Agnes Stone, 25, a domestic servant, late of Dalry Dell, Leytonstone—Emily Stone, Wanstead, a housemaid, the sister, deposed that deceased had been in service for some two years at Leyton. Witness was sent for on Sunday last, and found her sister very ill in bed and under the care of Dr. Irving. The same night the doctor said the case was a very serious one, and ordered the deceased's removal to the hospital—Dr. Chappell, house-surgeon, said that when admitted the deceased was in a very collapsed condition, and an operation was necessary. The morning following the operation she died. A postmortem examination showed conclusive evidence of recent malpractices by an unskilled person. The cause of death was a punctured wound in the bladder—Miss Agnes Norris, the deceased's mistress, deposed that some days before her death deceased was complaining of a cold, but did not lay up until Sunday, when witness sent her to bed. Witness first sought medical assistance on Thursday week, when she was awakened early in the morning by the deceased, who was crying with pain. She complained of pain in the stomach. When Dr. Irving was sent for he said the girl was dying, and the only chance she had was to be removed to the hospital. At the suggestion of the doctor witness searched the deceased's box, and found liniment and empty medicine bottles. The doctor told her to look carefully for any instruments, but all witness found was a pair of curling tongs and two large darning needles. The coroner remarked that there was a great deal behind the case that had to come out, and he would not close it without full and careful inquiry. Adjourned.

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Arthur Branson, a young man of respectable appearance, was charged at Stockton-on-Tees with brutal cruelty to his infant child. He had hung the baby at its mother and broken its thigh, and had so beaten the little one that its body was badly bruised and its eyes blackened. The baby was eight months old. Prisoner was sentenced to two months' hard labour.

The Orient Line steamer Ormuz, from Australia, which arrived at Plymouth on Thursday, reported that Capt. Darby, commander of the vessel, died on the 18th inst., and was buried at sea. Mr. W. T. Wright, the steward, committed suicide on the 19th ult. by jumping overboard. The ship was stopped and a boat lowered, but the body was not recovered.

THE LUSTON EXPLOSION.

Maj. Cardew, of the Board of Trade, having visited the scene of the street explosion which occurred on Saturday, Feb. 23, in Euston-street, Euston-road, has intimated to the Electrical Department of the S. P. Pancras vestry that he does not think it necessary to hold an official public inquiry, as the recommendations he made to the department following the explosion in the Euston-road some few weeks ago are equally applicable to the present case. The vestry, which owns and controls all the public electrical conduits in S. P. Pancras, are now engaged in making various alterations in accordance with the recommendations made by Maj. Cardew.

FAVOUR OF LADY'S FASHIONABLE MASTERS.

GIVEN.

ALSO 5 PAIRS OF KID GLOVES, WITH LEATHER FAMILY DESKBOOKS.

For March, April, May, June, July, August, September, and October. S. P. Pancras vestry, with full instructions for all persons. Address Mrs. D. J. T. T. 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## "THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

The testators are called by Mr. Lewis Melville the "votifiers."

The chance of two finger-prints being alike is not one in 64 billions.

Among modern weapons the bayonet has changed least since its invention.

A British commander-in-chief, when on active service, receives £75 a week.

Safety matches that can be used without a box are about to be placed on the market.

An Adirondack train killed three deer in one group on one night during the blizzard.

It is estimated that 30,000 conversations take place daily over the telephones in New York.

The father of M. Faure, the new President of the French Republic, was a manufacturer of arm-chairs.

Although Alsace was under French control for nearly two centuries, the people continued to speak German.

Chancellor Brusco, whose death was recently reported, is reported by a French paper to be residing in our London.

At the first bachelors' ball at Bothwell, a unique feature of the decorations was the word "Bachelor" formed out of clay pipes.

A royal warrant has been granted to Lipton, the tea, coffee, and provision merchant, for the supply of tea to her Majesty the Queen.

Within easy reach of the bed in the Queen's saloon carriage is a handle on the floor, by pulling up which her Majesty is able to apply the brakes to the whole train at any moment.

A Mid-Glamorgan paper said, in reply to a question of a correspondent, that the best way to destroy weeds was by marrying the widow.

The will of the late Mr. J. Dent Dent, chairman of the North-Eastern Railway Company, has been proved, and the personalty sworn at £22,300.

The Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., has consented to provide at the forthcoming annual dinner of the Newsvendors' Benevolent and Provident Institution.

The "Forth" goods station, Newcastle-on-Tyne, is the largest in Great Britain. On an average 2,500 trucks are loaded and unloaded there daily.

There is great indignation in Green Bay, Wisconsin, because a detective got a confession from a wife murderer by disguising himself as a priest.

A farmer named Tucker, his wife, and four children were burned to death some days ago in their home near Ardmore, Indian Territory. Foul play is suspected.

Cases of infection have been frequently traced to cats that have been allowed to spend hours in a sick room and go to another house where they have been petted.

A German has invented a small house, capable of holding four or five persons, to be used in diving and working in sunken ships or valuable wrecks of other character.

The new harbour at Theodosia is to be formally opened next month, and thereafter the commercial port of Sebastopol will practically cease to exist so far as foreign shipping is concerned.

The Duchess of York has consented to become patroness of the exhibition entitled "Fair Children," which will be opened in the Grafton Galleries towards the end of April next.

Mr. Gwynne-Holford has offered a reward of £500 for the conviction of those concerned in the destruction of his mansion, Buckland, should the disaster have been due to inadvertence.

A correspondent states that a robin's nest, containing three new-laid eggs, has, notwithstanding the severity of the weather, been found in a sheltered spot in the garden of a house at Stamford.

According to the New York Commissioner of Labour, the introduction of type-setting machines has reduced the number of employed in printing offices from 20 to 66 per cent.

A Wesleyan chapel at Winlaton, near Newcastle, has been burnt down. The building was of stone, and was built in 1868 at a cost of £1,000. The fire was caused by the warming apparatus igniting some of the wood-work.

In a district school near Mount Olivet, Kentucky, 55 pupils are enrolled. Each pupil is related either by consanguinity or marriage to every other child in the school. One of the other parents of each of the 33 children was either a pupil or schoolmate with the present teacher.

The 16th annual London show of the Shire Horse Society was opened on Feb. 26 at Kensington, and during the day the judging of the stallion classes was got through. The show was continued the following day, when the cups and gold medals were presented to the successful competitors by the Lady Mayoress.

According to the jubilee issue of "The Newspaper Press Directory" for 1895 there are now published in the United Kingdom 2,081 magazines, of which more than 487 are of a decidedly religious character. Almost every branch of science and thought is represented.

The Sirdar of Egypt, who has just returned to Cairo from the manoeuvres on the frontier, says that the troops acquitted themselves most creditably. Their powers of endurance were subjected to a severe and successful test by a remarkable march of 230 miles in the desert, averaging 27 miles a day.

By order of the Czar a commission is stated to have been appointed to discuss a scheme for the foundation of an institution, to be named after the late Alexander III., where literary men, artists and actors, incapacitated from work by old age or sickness, would be received and provided for. The institution is to be erected on one of the imperial domains.

The parasite is indigenous to the tropics. It is a most extraordinary plant. Its seeds are distributed by birds, and if one drops and lodges in a fruit tree it will germinate there and send a long root to the ground and draw nourishment through it. It then rapidly spreads over the unfortunate tree and strangles it.

It is not often that an employer is so handsomely considerate of the services of an old and faithful retainer as the recently-deceased K. S. Masurin, a wealthy Moscow merchant, who has bequeathed the sum of 400,000 roubles to his manservant, Philippoff. The fortunate legeret had served M. Masurin for the last 30 years.

The dangers of ballooning are to be slightly mitigated by the invention of a Frenchman which provides for the equipment of a cylinder of membrane to the car, so arranged that by the pressure of a button it may be automatically inflated with air in the unfortunate event of the balloon falling into the sea.

The new sewer main of Paris, which crosses from Clichy to Asnières, underneath the Seine, was formally dedicated recently. It is the first portion of an enormous enterprise which will take away all the sewage of Paris from the waters of the Seine. The work was begun in 1889, and will require 14 years or more to complete.

The Admiralty have finally resolved to refuse to release Lord Charles Beresford next month when, he claims, that his time will be the exceptional circumstances of his case, have expired. This would be counting as active service his term in the Soudan, for which the authorities demur. Lord Charles

will consequently not be free to enter the political arena until March in next year.

There was but one death from small-pox in London last week.

It has been decided to light both the choir and nave of Bristol Cathedral by electricity.

The Czar contemplates paying a visit to the Emperor William in Berlin next autumn.

Prince Ferdinand's birthday was celebrated throughout Bulgaria as a general holiday.

No fewer than 22 London infants were last week suffocated while in bed with their parents.

Mr. H. J. Burgess has been appointed by the corporation the chief clerk to the Guildhall School of Music.

The land purchased by the London County Council for a new entrance to Brockwell Park has cost £2,100.

The Prince of Wales has promised to preside at the forthcoming festival dinner of the Printers' Corporation.

When the Strand Improvement Bill comes on for second reading its rejection will be moved by Mr. Kimber.

There were but two suicides in London last week—the smallest number of such deaths recorded for many months past.

The Emperor William has conferred the Order of Merit on Baron von Schele, till recently Governor of German East Africa.

A vacancy is created among the Military Knights of Windsor by the death of Capt. Thomas Charles French.

The French, having devastated the farms and market gardens round Tamatave, now find themselves without fresh provisions.

The Queen has, through Col. Sir Fleetwood Edwards, forwarded a donation of £10 to the Irish Distressed Ladies' Fund.

The Sioux Indians propose to raise by popular subscription a fund for the erection of a monument to their chief, Iron Nation, who died recently.

Conscience money again! The Commissioners of Inland Revenue acknowledge the receipt of £450 from "L. S." on account of unpaid income-tax.

The Queen has given £250 to the Metropolis Visiting and Relief Association, to assist in alleviating the present distress in the poorer parts of London.

It is understood that President Faure has promised to visit Algeria in the summer.

Napoleon III. is the only French ruler who ever set foot there.

The directors of the Bank of England have given a donation of 500 guineas in aid of the special fund for opening the closed wards of St. Thomas's Hospital.

In London last week there were registered 2,787 births and 2,563 deaths. The deaths exceeded by 1,008 the average numbers of the corresponding weeks of the past 10 years.

According to a French writer Edward III. avowed a novel from a nun; it cost him £66 13s. 4d., and he always kept this work of fiction in his chamber.

A St. Bernard dog, which had been left as a watch dog on the premises, was roasted to death during a fire at Broughton-road, Stoke Newington.

Owing to heavy rain and a falling barometer at Nice, the Corso and the Battle of Confetti have been postponed, and the customary celebration of the last day of carnival did not take place.

The Metropolitan Asylums Board are about to appoint an assistant medical officer for the North-western Hospital for Fever Patients. The salary offered commences at £150 per annum, with board and lodgings.

The Tonbridge Reading-room was opened experimentally on Sundays during November, December, and January. It has now been closed again by the Urban Council, the attendance, chiefly youthful, having varied from three to 17, out of a population of 10,123.

Mr. Long intends to ask the Home Secretary whether he is prepared to take steps to carry out the administrative and legislative changes recommended by the Departmental Committee on the cab service of the metropolis, and, if so, when the first-named changes will come into operation.

The Treasury receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1894, when there was a balance of £5,277,119, to February 23, 1895, were £52,633,219, against £78,073,297 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,062,533.

M. Paul Mouries, who, since Vaquerie's death, is the only surviving executor of Victor Hugo, states that the manuscripts yet to be published include "Ocean," consisting of two volumes, mostly in prose, which contain an account given by an eye-witness of Louis XVI.'s execution, and three volumes of letters.

The Princess of Wales has sent £2 to the Rev. J. Trelawny Ross, D.D., vicar of Paignton, for an old Irishwoman, Mrs. Ann McLaughlin, of Limavady, who is 110 years of age, and whose husband served in the corps of yeomanry commanded by Dr. Ross's grandfather in the beginning of the century.

A youth had joined a Volunteer corps, and was having his first day's shooting at the target. When his turn came to shoot at 300 yards, he omitted to sight his rifle to that distance. The result was that the bullet fell short when he fired, upon seeing which he exclaimed, "Hang it! I didn't pull the trigger hard enough!"

At Cambridge University, Dr. Andrew Russell Forsyth, Fellow of Trinity College, was elected Lucasian Professor of Pure Mathematics in place of the late Professor Cayley, and Dr. Charles Waldegrave, Fellow of King's College, was elected Slade Professor of Fine Art in place of Mr. J. H. Middleton, who did not seek re-election.

The Colney Hatch Gas Company has reduced the price of gas from 4d. 2d. to 4d. per 1,000 feet. The Hornsey Gas Company, whose district adjoins that of the Colney Hatch Company, recently reduced theirs to 3d. per 1,000 feet. The gas supplied by both these companies is of less candle-power than that supplied in London.

Lord Harris, the late governor of Bombay, will arrive at Dover on March 6, and will be met there by Maj.-Gen. Lord William Seymour, commanding the South-eastern District, and other military officers. A guard of honour of the 1st Volunteer Battalion East Kent Regiment (the Buffs) will be in attendance.

Lord Aberdare died on Monday at his residence in Prince's Gardens, after a short illness. He had nearly completed his 80th year. He was Home Secretary in Mr. Gladstone's first Administration, and remained in office until 1874, since which time he has taken a prominent part in matters connected with education and social science.

The Admiralty have decided to strengthen the South Russian centres which have recently gone to St. Petersburg to congratulate the Czar on his marriage. The first excursion to the station classes was got through. The 31 excursions to Greece last Easter enjoyed 21 days' holiday at a cost per head of £19 13s. 3d. A party went to Holland at Whitstable for a week for £3 15s. 4d. per head, and in the summer an expedition to Switzerland of 30 members, divided into two parties, cost £10 18s. per head.

A further rise in the price of potatoes took place in South Lincolnshire last week, some farmers and allotment occupiers having sold out at 80s. to 90s. per ton. In one instance £3 per ton was realized for a fancy sort. The demand continues, but unfortunately there is a very limited supply. Since the disappearance of the frost the potato price has been opened, and a large number of tubers have been found to be completely rotten through the action of the frost.

The Orsini family at Florence is about to sue the Emperor of Austria to recover a large sum of money due to it ever since 1749. It is alleged that a valuable collection of coins and antiquities was delivered by the Emperor to the Czarina, Grand Duke of Tuscany, that the goods were never restored or paid for, and that the Emperor is heir to the debt. The case is to come before the civil tribunal at Florence.

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The Rev. L. H. Wellesley-Wesley, tutor to the royal highnesses the Duke of Albany, whose conduct attracted some attention last year by his refusal to attend the Presbyterian bazaar at Crathie, and who is best known in Yorkshire from his work at Filey Church during the summer months, has been elected one of the select preachers in Durham.

Miss Lilian Delemer, an actress, was sued in the Queen's Bench Division for nearly £40, due to Mr. H. F. Phillips in respect of bets alleged to have been made on her behalf. The Gaming Act was pleaded in bar of the claim, and Mr. Justice Cave, after hearing the evidence, gave judgment for defendant, on the ground that there was no evidence to show

that the bets were made between anybody but plaintiff and defendant.

Madame Dreyfus is said to have applied for permission to join her husband immediately in his exile in French Guiana.

The Society of Friends has before it a proposal to hold a conference to consider how it can more fully and definitely propagate its distinctive religious views.

On Monday at Windsor the Queen invested a number of gentlemen with the orders of distinction conferred upon them on New Year's Day.

Darwin confessed that Shakspere had no charm for him, and that he always liked a novel which had a pretty woman in and ended happily.

The Corporation of Manchester has deposited petitions against the Great Northern Railway and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railways.

The Emperor of Germany smokes cigarettes, the new Czar of Russia prefers a pipe, President Faure, of France, is a great consumer of strong cigars.

The Hon. Mrs. Stanhope has decided to found a scholarship at Harrow School in memory of her late husband, the Right Hon. Edward Stanhope, M.P.

The remaining Japanese officers at present serving with the German Army and Navy have received orders to report for service in Yunnan.

In official circles in Rome a denial is given to the statement that King Humbert has assumed the idea of assuming the title of Emperor of Ethiopia.

The total population of Western Siberia amounts to 2,700,000 of both sexes, of whom only 8 per cent. are native, the immigrant European element forming 92 per cent.

The Savings Bank of New South Wales has quite recovered from the effects of the slight shock it sustained at the time of the panic in 1893. The deposits of the past year have exceeded the withdrawals.

A Chicago butcher keeps a tame fox. It keeps the place clear of rats. The experiment was tried after cats and traps had failed. The first night the fox spent in the shop, he slaughtered 34 rodents.

At Old Pallas, county Limerick, a publican named Raleigh, who is said to have been married, shot himself through the heart with a double-barrelled gun, which was found lying beside his dead body.

The Bonavia Hunt Musical History Prize, offered by the Academical Board of Trinity College, London, has been awarded to Mr. H. Mansell Ramsey, of Bournemouth (Miss Katherine Swain, L.T.C.L. proximo accessit).

Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., has received a promise from the President of the Board of Trade that the Government will give facilities for the second reading of his Cheap Trains (London) Bill.

Tonquin journals announce the death of M. de Grandmason, the travelling companion of Prince Henri d'Orléans. It was due to an overdose of morphine, administered by subcutaneous injection.

The Marquis of Lorne, the Unionist candidate for South Africa, has been initiated as an hon. member of the Loyal George the Fourth Lodge of the National Independent Order of Oddfellows.

A St. Petersburg journal says it is informed that, on the invitation of the German Emperor, a Russian squadron will leave the annual dinner of graduates of the University of Dublin, and delivered an interesting speech in responding to the principal toast.

In Lincolnshire a farm of 212 acres was recently sold under the hammer for £26,650. For brick and mortar investments in the industrial centres the demand has been steady.

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